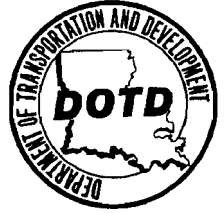




KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO  
GOVERNOR

**STATE OF LOUISIANA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT**  
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Johnny B. Bradberry  
SECRETARY

TO: All Contractors, Consultants and Vendors enrolled with DOTD

FROM: Johnny B. Bradberry  
Secretary

DATE: May 15, 2006

RE: **Implementation of the Hudson Initiative Program**

Full implementation of the procedures governing the Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships, known as the Hudson Initiative, is currently underway. Please review the information below to determine if your firm is eligible to participate in this program.

**ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION?**

- Are you a Louisiana domiciled business?
- Do you have less than fifty (50) full-time employees?
- Are your annual gross revenue receipts \$5,000,000 or less (for construction) or \$3,000,000 or less (for non-construction) for each of the previous 3 tax years?

**WHAT IS THE SMALL ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM?**

This Small Entrepreneurship Program (also known as the Hudson Initiative) was created by Act 440 during the 2005 regular legislative session to provide additional opportunities for Louisiana based small entrepreneurships to participate in contracting and procurement with the State of Louisiana. Key features of the program are:

- This is a goal-oriented program
- It is race and gender neutral
- Participation is restricted to Louisiana-based certified SE's

**WHY IS CERTIFICATION IMPORTANT?**

Certification is required for your participation in the Small Entrepreneurship Program. In addition, this is one of the methods that the State of Louisiana will utilize as a basis for benchmarking for annualized procurement and contracting goals.

## **WHAT AGENCY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CERTIFICATION?**

The Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED) is responsible for certifying Small Entrepreneurships for participation in the program. Refer to the (LED) Small Business Certification System at <http://www.ledsmallbiz.com> for further information as well as a copy of the Application Form for Certification as a Small Entrepreneurship. For additional information regarding certification, please contact John W. Matthews, Jr. or Craig Hartberg at LED (225) 342-3000.

The Department of Transportation and Development is committed to the success of this program and look forward to your participation. We strongly urge you to apply for certification if you are eligible to participate.